## Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claim 5 has been amended.

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## **Listing of Claims:**

1. (original) A method for a first device and a second device to maintain synchronization of a shared, dynamic secret, the method comprising:

the second device sending an authentication request to the first device;

the first device, in response to the authentication request,

authenticating the second device,

sending an authentication reply to the second device, and

advancing a first copy of the secret;

the second device, in response to the authentication reply,

advancing a second copy of the secret;

the first device,

sending data to the second device,

again advancing the first copy of the secret, and

sending a data completion message to the second device;

the second device,

consuming the data, and

in response to the data completion message, again advancing the second copy of the secret.

- 2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the first device comprises a server and the second device comprises a web appliance.
- (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
   the first device storing the again advanced first copy of the secret; and
   the second device storing the again advanced second copy of the secret.

4. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

executing a recovery technique in response to the first and second copies of the secret becoming out of synchronization.

5. (currently amended) A system for use on a network, the system comprising: a server including,

a communication interface,

a processor for performing logic operations,

storage,

stored in the storage, a first copy of a secret,

a secret validator, and

means for advancing the first copy of the secret;

a web appliance including,

a communication interface coupling the web appliance to the server over the network, a processor for performing logic operations,

first storage,

stored in the <u>first</u> storage of the web appliance, a second copy of the secret, means for advancing the second copy of the secret;

second storage to store an authentication protocol to generate an authentication

## request to be sent to the server; and

the server and the web appliance further including,

a protocol for recovering synchronization of the first and second copies of the secret.

6. (original) The system of claim 5 wherein the secret comprises a PIN.

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- 7. (original) The system of claim 6 wherein the PIN comprises a number of at least 80 bits.
- 8. (original) A method for a client device to maintain synchronization of a first copy of a secret stored on the client device with a second copy of the secret stored on a server device, the method comprising the client device:

sending an authorization request to the server device;
in response to receiving from the server device an authentication reply,
advancing the first copy of the secret; and
in response to receiving data from the server device,
consuming the data, and
again advancing the first copy of the secret.

- 9. (original) The method of claim 8 further comprising the client device: in response to receiving data from the server device, storing the again advanced first copy of the secret.
- 10. (original) The method of claim 8 further comprising the client device: in response to not receiving an affirmative authentication reply from the server device,
  - (a) advancing the first copy of the secret,
  - (b) sending the advanced first copy of the secret to the server device.
- 11. (original) The method of claim 10 wherein the (a) advancing the first copy of the secret comprises twice advancing the first copy of the secret.
- 12. (original) A method for a server to authenticate an appliance that is in communication with the server, the method comprising the server:

receiving from the appliance an authentication request; sending an authentication reply to the appliance; advancing a first copy of a secret stored on the server; sending data to the appliance; sending a data completion message to the appliance; again advancing the first copy of the secret; and storing the again advanced first copy of the secret on the server.

- 13. (original) The method of claim 12 wherein the secret is a PIN.
- 14. (original) The method of claim 12 wherein the secret comprises a value of at least 80 bits.
- 15. (original) The method of claim 12 further comprising:

  determining that the appliance is not authentic and, responsive to that determination,

  logging the authentication request, and

  disconnecting communication to the appliance.
- 16. (original) An article of manufacture comprising:a machine-accessible medium including instructions that, when accessed by a machine,cause the machine to perform the method of claim 8.
- 17. (original) The article of manufacture of claim 16 further comprising: instructions that, when accessed by the machine, cause the machine to perform the method of claim 10.
- 18. (original) An article of manufacture comprising:
  a machine-accessible medium including instructions that, when accessed by a machine,
  cause the machine to perform the method of claim 12.
- 19. (original) The article of manufacture of claim 18 further comprising: instructions that, when accessed by the machine, cause the machine to perform the method of claim 15.